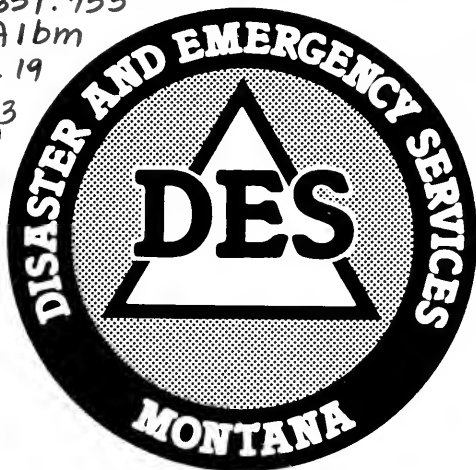


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**MONTANA
DISASTER AND EMERGENCY
SERVICES
DIVISION NEWSLETTER
406-444-6911**

**STAN STEPHENS
GOVERNOR**

**GARY C. BLAIR
ADJUTANT GENERAL**

**WILLIAM K. GOOD, JR.
ADMINISTRATOR**

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August 1992

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**Montana Disaster
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1100 North Main
Helena, Montana 59620-2111**

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

AUG 13 1992

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FIRST CLASS

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NOTES FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

As of this writing, members of Montana DES are still involved in the never ending opportunity for excellence I mentioned in the last newsletter. We are deeply involved in budgets.

First, the federal budget...We have completed our federal fiscal year (FFY) 1993 Comprehensive Cooperative Agreement (CCA) proposal and submitted it to FEMA, Region VIII. Now our program managers work with FEMA program managers to iron out differences in our work products. Ken Grieb and I will be in Denver on August 17 to negotiate any last minute changes. We can not tell what our federal funding situation will be for FFY 93; however, from what we read and hear, we will not receive all of the federal funds that we requested. Of course, it is too early to speculate, therefore I will give you hard data when we have it.

The State funding situation is even more obscure. As mentioned last time, State fiscal year 1993 cuts for the Department of Military Affairs were drastic. Final decisions on what actions need to be taken will be made after we analyze the results of the special session of the Legislature. We expect very severe funding cuts which will greatly effect the people and the operations of the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division.

As always, I continue to see people doing wonderful things. Blaine County is a perfect example of an effective emergency management team. That county has had more than their fair share of emergencies, but the County Commissioners and other county officials work together as a team to get it done right the first time.

In an unfortunate incident in Chouteau County, I was able to observe, first hand, the operations of the emergency management team of that county. What a great group of well trained, caring professionals!

All of the people involved in our training programs as instructors, facilitators, and participants need a big pat on the back. We are getting more and more top leaders at state, county, local, private industry level actively involved in emergency management. People are getting involved in well planned, well executed major exercises in Beaverhead, Missoula and Silver Bow counties, with the end result being a better team effort to take care of the people we serve. "Prairie '92" is a full-scale exercise being planned by emergency management personnel from seven counties. I participated in a Canadian/American Coordinating Conference in Kalispell that included two exceptional table-top international exercises.

We are also getting the Governor's Conference '93 train on the track. What an experience that Conference is going to be--and we are going to have the agenda finalized by September 1, 1992!

Keep up the good work.

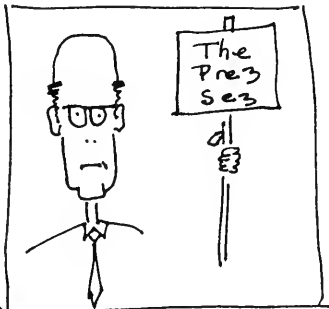
-Bill Good

THE PREZ SEZ

The Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinators Association executive board met in Helena at the State EOC on May 20, and asked our district VP's to meet with their coordinators to review our program standards.

The association adopted seven performance standards in 1988 to give us a yardstick with which to measure our programs. This has been adopted as an association project; along with a recommendation to use the six FEMA correspondence courses as a minimum educational requirement for all coordinators.

The courses are educational and easy to take, because you study at your own pace. The standards and home study course brochure are available from your district representative or the state DES office.



Call or write to me with questions you may have or proposals to improve emergency management in Montana. Have a safe summer. See you in Bozeman on August 31 for the mid-year conference.

-Paul Spengler



Paul Spengler is the current president of the Montana DES Coordinators Association.



MONTANA POWER DEVELOPS PLANS

Montana Power Company may be talking to you soon. Not about your monthly power bill; about emergency power shortage plans.

Power shortages occur infrequently, however, occasionally the demand for electrical power may exceed the supply. (Residents of big cities are familiar with summer brown-outs and black-outs on hot days.) These power fluctuations cause headaches for all power users. Large consumers of power (manufacturing firms or other industrial users) may have to adjust their operations. Residential users may worry about freezer melt-down in summer or loss of heat in the winter. Business and

government users may not be able to serve customers or citizens.

Planning for these emergency power shortages can reduce the impact should power shortages occur.



One problem that can occur as a result of power shortages actually expands the difficulty. Power lines can carry a certain capacity. When emergency power shortages occur power supplies are switched or rerouted to meet the need. If the remaining lines are used beyond capacity those lines may fail, expanding and extending the shortage. This line loss increases the time and cost of power restoration.

The short-term emergency power shortage planning Montana Power Company is doing addresses these problems. Working with local emergency managers in the MPC service area, MPC can use existing notification systems to inform emergency services about the duration of these temporary outages.

(Continued..)

MPC can also work with communities to get the support of large power users during emergency power shortages. These large users may be asked to reduce their power consumption temporarily during a power shortfall. This can reduce or eliminate other local emergency problems or power loss for small consumers.

So, when Montana Power Company representatives call, enlighten them. It may prevent future shocks.

-Mary Arnold
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COMPUTERS

So you're thinking of sprucing up your office by adding a new computer, but your budget is short on cash. Don't give up yet. With all the new advances in the computer world, many older (three to six years old), used computers are now becoming available. These older computers, which cost thousands new (read--BIG \$\$\$\$), can be purchased for a mere pittance (under five hundred dollars depending on the options you want).

They may not be fancy or have all the new bells and whistles, but the older computers are still good work horses. They will run most of the popular word processing and data base programs and can handle most projects in a small office.

Like shopping for a used car, it is a buyer beware world out there. You need to know a little of the computer world lingo and what features you want before you go shopping.



First,
a little computer lingo...

Microprocessor:

This is the brain of the computer. All microprocessors perform basically the same function. The main difference between them is how much data they can handle at one time and how fast they can handle the data. Different microprocessors are given number designations. The older microprocessors were 8088's (read--eighty-eighty-eights) and 80286's (read--eighty two eighty-sixes). If you are looking for

the lowest-cost, used computer; shop for a computer with an 8088 microprocessor.

Random Access Memory:

Random access memory, more commonly referred to as RAM, is the working memory of the microprocessor. This is where the computer keeps all of the operating instructions and data on which it is currently working. The more memory the computer has the more it will cost. Most computers will have 640 Kilo Bytes (read--six hundred and forty kay). One byte equals one alpha or numeric character. In no case should you buy a computer with less than 512 KBytes of RAM.

Disk Drives:

Disk drives come in basically two types, floppy and hard. These types come in a variety of memory sizes. Floppy drives are available in two physical sizes, 5¼ inch and 3½ inch. The computer uses disk drives to store programs and data files not currently in use. Do not buy a computer that does not have a hard drive and at least one floppy drive.

(Continued..)

Additional knowledge about computers can be gained by talking to friends or colleagues who have computers. What do they like about their computer?, how well does it work for them?, what problems have they had?, have they had problems getting their computer repaired? I think you've gotten my drift by now on questions to ask, besides I'm sure you will come up with better questions.

Last but not least, as in buying a used car, deal only with reputable dealers. Usually they will give some kind of warranty, even on used computers and they will help you get the computer up and running. Shy away from buying from an individual unless you are very knowledgeable about computer hardware or have total trust in the person.

Next issue I'll discuss purchasing new computers. Until then good luck and good shopping. If you have any questions that you think I can answer, give me a call.

-Homer Young

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FALL EM CONFERENCE ANNOUNCED

Two courses will be offered at the fall training in Bozeman, September 1-3. The courses are: Basic Skills in Creative Financing and Basic Skills in Leadership & Influence. Both are 2½ day courses.

Creative Financing clarifies funding procedures and assists in identifying and securing the numerous resources available. Creative financing is a point of view and a process used to obtain and maximize available resources.

The course:

- ★ defines community and organizational needs by identifying and assessing resources.
- ★ explores methods for developing creative strategies for using local resources.
- ★ increases familiarity of steps and reference tools
- ★ identifies and selects public/private sector sources; and
- ★ improves budget preparation, presentation and defense skills.

Basic Skills in Leadership & Influence increases leadership and conflict management skills and the use of influence and power. Self assessment and job application are stressed. The course is designed for emergency management personnel at all levels.

The course:

- ★ improves skills in leadership, influence, exercising power, and conflict management.
- ★ enhances capabilities in the diagnosis of organizational problems.
- ★ develops a plan for taking initiative and exercising influence within communities or organizations.

Reservations

Make your motel reservations now, if you want to attend the fall conference. The following facilities have rooms for us: City Center 587-3158, Econo Lodge 587-4481 and Bobcat Inn 587-5241.

Location

The training will be conducted at the City Center Motel.

(Continued..)

Application

Please submit your application (FEMA Form 75-5) through your District Representative, as soon as possible.

Reimbursement

We will reimburse as many people as funding will permit. Get your applications in early.

-Chris Christensen
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COLLEGE CREDIT MADE EASY

The NCEM emergency management certification process has many folks interested in college degrees and college credits. Well, here is a relatively easy way to get some credit and learn more about emergency management.

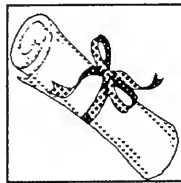
First, enroll in a college or university. Then take almost any of the emergency management courses sponsored by Disaster and Emergency Services or FEMA. That's right, those certificates you have tacked to the wall can be dusted off and submitted for college credit.

The American Council

on Education lists courses and recommended credit hours for dozens of courses.

Included on the list are: the Emergency Planning Course, the Exercise Design Course, Fundamentals for Radiological Monitors, Creative Financing, the Shelter Systems Officer Course. One to three credit hours are recommended for these courses. These courses have all been offered in Montana in the past few years.

Many of the courses offered at the Emergency Management Institute at Emmitsburg, Maryland are also eligible for college credit. At some colleges you may have to pay a fee to transfer the credit to the college. But, this fee is usually less than the cost of a course at the school. If you have questions about getting this college credit contact the college or university registrar.



Take advantage of the training opportunities that DES offers and work on your college degree, too. Get the credit you deserve!

...

DEALING WITH DROUGHT

Several local communities have organized and initiated efforts to mitigate the impact of the drought. Local committees have done a great job through public service announcements, pamphlet production, and group efforts to reduce de-watering and coordinate agency activities on their level.

The state Drought Advisory Committee has met at least once every three weeks since May. The sub-committee charged with researching in-stream monitoring stations reported additional sites are possible. As always, the key to install these units is funding. The stations cost approximately \$1000. Andy Poole, sub-committee chairman, will research possible funding sources.

(Continued...)

A new sub-committee was appointed to develop public education. This sub-committee will define goals and develop a plan for reaching appropriate audiences.

Information on drought designations for twelve Montana counties has been sent to the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture. Eight more county damage assessment reports are being compiled and four others have been started. With the recent rains, updated damage assessment information will probably be required by the USDA State Emergency Board before the processing of any requests can continue.

-Dan McGowan

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FREEBIES AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The May 1992 issue of Hazard Monthly announced the availability of a book and training package titled *Accidents will Happen: A Small Town Guide to Planning for Hazardous Materials Response*. The package was developed by the National Association of Towns and Townships.

According to the article, the complete self-training package--consisting of a guidebook, video and user's guide--is geared to the capacities of smaller communities and their elected officials.

The 60-page guidebook explains local officials' responsibilities under federal law; describes basic steps for developing an effective emergency response plan; shares training and information-gathering techniques; explains how to use the Local Emergency Planning Committee to gain expertise and reduce costs; and identifies sources of information and assistance. The complete training package costs \$50.00 for National Association of Towns and Townships members, \$80.00 for others. The package can be rented. The guidebook alone costs \$11.00 for non-members and \$6.00 for members. Write: National Association of Towns and Townships, 1522 K Street, Northwest Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20005; 202-737-5200.

The Family Protection Program is keeping up their harried pace. There is

another new document available from Wayne Blanchard, et al, on personal and family preparedness. This document is a 35-page report from the Family Protection Program Conference, January 1992. The conference report, RR-37/June 1992 discusses the direction the program will take in the near future, describes the assumptions that are made in the development of the family protection brochures and explains local program spin-offs that have used program materials.

The document includes information on the January 1993 Family Protection Program Conference to be held at the Emergency Management Institute. If you are interested in attending write to the Family Protection Program Manager, 500 C Street South West, Room 602, Washington, D. C. 20472.



Department of Energy has released *Transport of Radioactive Materials: Q & A about Incident Response*. This 32-page handbook can be ordered through the FEMA publication warehouse. There is no document number at this time, ask for the handbook by name. The handbook is intended to be a reference document and will be used in the revised *Fundamentals Course for Radiological Monitors*.

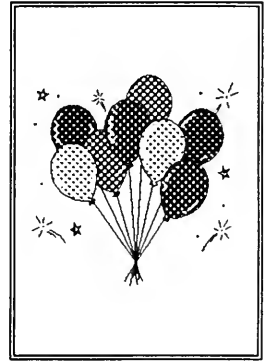
The International City Managers Association is offering a self-study course *Emergency Management: Principles and Practices for Local Government*. The course is priced at \$195 for an individual and \$325 for groups of three or more. The fee entitles the student to the text book, a self study guide and a certificate of completion from the International City Managers Association after passing the course exam. Brochures and more information on the course are available by contacting International City Managers Association, 777 North Capital Street North East, #500, Washington, D.C. 20002-4201, 202-962-3634.

The October 1992-September 1993 Emergency Management Institute Resident Course brochure is available. The pamphlet breaks the EMI calendar into months and lists each course that is offered by week. The last page is a FEMA form 75-5 (course application) you can use for any of the EMI or Montana DES training courses. Call 800-238-3358 for a copy of this brochure.

FEMA is sending materials from their newly announced Emergency Public Information Library to local emergency managers. The entire library will include: video announcements (public service announcements and longer informational pieces about disasters), radio scripts and recordings and fact sheets (for newspaper briefings).

Some of the library topics are: flood evacuation, what to do in an earthquake, how to assemble a disaster supply kit. There are seven other topics covered by library materials.

The first shipment of library materials should arrive in early August.



HAZ MAT QUESTIONNAIRE

A questionnaire was recently sent to local DES coordinators, LEPC chairs, Tribal coordinators and interested others regarding needed hazardous materials training. Federal fiscal year 93 begins October 1st. It is imperative that local data is available to aid in planning and scheduling.

The Awareness, Operations and Command Level courses of FY92 filled some needs, but training needs are ever-changing, ever expanding and ongoing. Please have the forms back to me right away, so I can get the data compiled and ready for use.

-Fred Cowie
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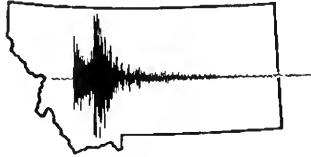
FAMILY PROTECTION PROGRAM ASSISTS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Sheriff's may be asking local DES coordinators for assistance and materials to support local Neighborhood Watch programs. The Federal Emergency Management Agency signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Sheriff's Association to encourage the incorporation of disaster preparedness and family protection information in neighborhood watch efforts.

Sheriff's were sent a list of materials produced by the Family Protection Program recently. They got copies of the Civil Defense Speakers Kit and other presentation materials. The letter that accompanied the information suggested Sheriff's work with local emergency managers in developing neighborhood watch programs.

If your county sheriff wants additional materials, contact your district representative or the Helena DES office. We will be glad to order more.

-Mary Arnold



EARTHQUAKE ACTIVITIES

As everyone in emergency management knows, one of the best hazard awareness opportunities is an actual event. This year has been a "good" earthquake year. Recent earthquakes in northern and southern California, along with the five earthquakes in Montana that were strong enough for people to "feel", have combined to create an atmosphere of interest and opportunities to spread the word through the media.

Following the quakes in Humboldt County, California in late April, we were approached by Eric Gardner of KPAX-TV in Missoula for assistance in developing a news series on earthquakes and the earthquake threat in Montana. This series was an exceptional piece of work. The television station and

Mr. Gardner both received awards from Montana DES and FEMA Region VIII this month.

* * * *

Remember and spread the word about the following actions to take in the event of an earthquake:

- When the ground starts shaking STAY WHERE YOU ARE!
- If you are inside, get away from windows and take cover beneath sturdy furniture.
- If you are outside, get away from buildings and power lines.
- If you are driving, pull over, stop and stay in your vehicle. Keep driving only if you are on or under an overpass.

If you need any assistance in earthquake awareness activities, please contact Bob Musselman in Helena.

PS: Bernie "Bart" Barton, the newly appointed DES coordinator in Powell county will use earthquakes as the theme for this year's DES booth at the Powell County Fair. Thanks Bart for helping to spread the word.

-Bob Musselman

EXERCISE DESIGN COURSE

Another Exercise Design Course was successfully completed in April. Forty participants representing all emergency management disciplines gathered at the Butte War Bonnet Inn. Jan Henry, Bureau of Reclamation, Denver Office, Larry Akers and Bill Thomas, Montana DES staff, and LTC Brad Neal, Individual Mobilization Augmentee, participated as facilitators. Chris, NJ and Clete Gregory, Pondera County Deputy Coordinator, conducted the course.

Tim Read, Ravalli County Coordinator, and his team designed a dam failure exercise involving Como Dam. After he went home, he learned that Como Dam was placed under emergency watch by the Bureau of Reclamation. Pays to practice, doesn't it Tim?

Montana Power Company staff used the course to develop their Disaster Recovery Exercise and went on to conduct the exercise on June 17th. It's very gratifying to know that training is perpetuated by the take-it-

home-and-apply-it process. Thanks to all that made this course great!

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DECISION MAKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING COURSE

The Decision Making Course was held June 17th with twenty-one participants in attendance at the Town House Inn, Havre.

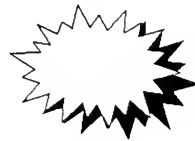
PRAIRIE COUNTY

"Prairie 92", an Air Force and seven county joint exercise, proceeds to the semi-finals! A full scale communications exercise was conducted in Mildred, Montana. (That's somewhere between Miles City and Glendive or take a right at Fallon.) The exercise began early on May 29th with Prairie County Sheriff Gary Larsen responding to a call of a downed aircraft with mass casualties located near Mildred. Because this was a communications exercise, it was interesting to note the confusion that ensued when certain state law enforcement representatives could not find the scene. After the close of the exercise, seven coordinators closed their

EOC's and went to the site to debrief and evaluate the day's event.

On June 11, in Terry, representatives from Malmstrom, Minot, and Ellsworth Air Force bases conducted a five-hour presentation. The topics were geared toward the expected response from the air force during the upcoming October 3rd exercise. Lots of good information was shared during this time. Lunch in the park was a much welcomed event, thanks to Wes Plann, Prairie County Coordinator.

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MONTANA POWER COMPANY EXERCISES/DRILLS

Montana Power Company has scheduled exercises to test notification procedures in their Emergency Action Plans on the following dates at these locations.

8/4/92 Thompson Falls Dam
8/5/92 Kerr Dam

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE

You should have received a letter from Bill Good, State Director, accompanied by a two page survey. The information from the survey will help us begin planning for the Governor's Conference. Please make sure that you return the survey to the State Exercise Training Officer.

-NancyJo Ilminen



THE MONTANA DISASTER ASSISTANCE TEMPORARY HIRE PROGRAM

The purpose of this article is to provide information on a new program within the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division (MT DES). The program is the Montana temporary Hire Program.

This program will allow the MT DES to recruit, select, and maintain a group of qualified individuals, as reservists which will be available to reinforce existing DES personnel in time of disaster.

Some key temporary positions have been identified which would facilitate a disaster response. These positions range from Senior Engineer to Data Entry Technician. The positions would be required mainly in the event of a Presidential Declared Disaster, however, one or more persons could be brought on duty in the event of a large scale State declaration. The authority to hire exists in both the Stafford Act and The Montana Code. Provisions for pay exist in both the Stafford Act and The Montana Code.

To implement this plan and allow temporary personnel to be brought on board rapidly a list of "Reserve" personnel needs to be established.

Some criteria that we are looking for is:

A general knowledge of disaster recovery operations, programs and procedures.

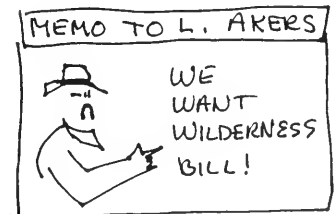
Skilled in a particular field that would be beneficial to recovery operations such as highway engineering, secretarial, or auditing.

The position is subject to a 24 hour notice. The person must be prepared to immediately relocate to, assist in the establishment of, and work in a Disaster Field Office DFO.

Must be prepared to work long hours, over an extended period of time, under adverse working conditions and living in temporary facilities.

It would seem in order to meet the rapid deployment requirement the person would have to have a flexible schedule. An ideal person to fit the above criteria might be a self employed person. Other likely candidates might be retired persons or someone that has seasonal work. I'm sure there are many other possibilities. If you know such a person, advise them of the program and recommend that they contact Larry Akers at 444-6911.

-Larry Akers





FAREWELL AND ADIEU

On June 24th Powell County honored Earl Wahl upon his retirement from Disaster and Emergency Services. The party, held in the Powell County Courthouse, was well attended by his many friends and co-workers. Earl has served a DES coordinator since 1968. His retirement will certainly leave a void in the DES ranks.

District 1 will remember Earl as the "great story teller." He always entertains with his stories about some of the residents of Powell County, his job experiences and family.

Earl received many gifts, including a plaques from Governor Stephens, FEMA, Region 8 and Montana DES and a DES wrist watch from the Montana DES Coordinators Association.

While Earl effectively retired on June 24th, he promised to keep his hand in by attending

area and district DES meetings. You can drop Earl a card at 713 Higgins Avenue, Deer Lodge, Montana 59722. He would love to hear from you.

-Wilma Puich

Wilma Puich is the current secretary of the Montana DES Coordinators Association and a close, long time friend and colleague of Earl Wahl.



THE GREAT STORY TELLER IN ACTION

During the 1981 flood in Powell County, I made the mistake of getting in a car with Earl and driving out to Garrison to look over some flood damaged property. As soon as we pulled to a stop, two unfamiliar cars converged on us; one to the rear and one to the front. Two robust women emerged from the cars, slammed the doors, and strode toward us with fire in their eyes. We were trapped. My heart picked up a few beats. It turned out the women were enraged that their homes were flooded and "no one was doing anything about it". Some had apparently told them a state fella and the county DES

coordinator were en route. We were ambushed. Then Earl did what he does best--he charmed them.

My bet is that anyone who knows Earl has an Earl Wahl anecdote to recall with a smile.

Of all that Earl has done for Powell County and the community of Deer Lodge in the 76 years he has lived there - mayor, alderman, DES Coordinator, member of virtually every board in existence - nothing stands out more than his simple honesty, integrity, decency and friendliness. Even in the face of personal tragedy, Earl had a knack for putting people at ease and making them smile. What a great world this would be if more of us were like you, Earl.

Anyone who knows Earl, also knows the pride he takes in his family, which includes five children and about 20 grand- and great grand-children. We hope you'll have more time to hug them all. Stay in touch.

-Bill Thomas



COMINGS AND GOINGS

Several changes have been made to this column as a result of some insistent requests. Information on changes in local coordinators will also include any phone number or address revisions. Changes in deputy coordinator will be included in this listing, too. This information can be used to update the DES personnel directory distributed at the Governor's Conference. The information will be alphabetical by jurisdiction.

By now you all may know, Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division has moved. Not physically, but we have a new address. The address is Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division, 1100 North Main, Helena, Montana, 59620-2111. Mail addressed to our old post office box will be forwarded for a few months, but to ensure prompt delivery, please use the new address.

Mail sent to District 3 Representative, Jim Anderson, should be sent to the new Montana DES address, too.

Big Horn County. Craig Taft and Alan Hanson have switched jobs. Alan is the county DES coordinator and Craig is the deputy coordinator.



Fergus County. Karen "Tootie" Marks is the new DES coordinator in Fergus County. Tootie has been involved in DES for so long we can't remember when she wasn't involved. The new Fergus County DES address is P.O. Box 180, Lewistown, Montana 59457. The coordinator's home phone number is 538-7531. The Sheriff's Office, 538-3415 is the deputy coordinator contact.

City of Great Falls. Jim Hirose the former deputy coordinator for the City is the Acting Coordinator. The business phone is 727-5881. The home number is 453-8135.

Phillips County. Clark Kelly has a new business phone number (use for emergencies only) 673-3252. His home number is 654-1969.

Powell County. Bernard "Bart" Barton is the new county DES coordinator. His home number is 846-2766. The county FAX number is (Sheriff's Office) 846-2742.

Teton County. James Dellwo is no longer the county deputy DES coordinator.

It is with great sadness that the death of Zola Marie Gilbertson is mentioned here. Mrs. Gilbertson died May 10, 1992 in Helena. A memorial has been established with Hospice of St. Peter's Community Hospital, 2475 Broadway, Helena, Montana 59601.

We offer our condolences to C.L."Gil" Gilbertson and the entire Brown and Gilbertson families for their loss. Our sincere sympathies are with you.

The Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Disaster and Emergency Services Division. It is funded, in part by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Contributions of articles and ideas are welcome. Deadlines for submission are January 8--February issue, April 8--May issue, July 8--August issue and October 8--November issue.

The editor reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. The articles in this newsletter do not constitute official policy. Questions regarding articles may be addressed to the DES Newsletter Editor.